

To: Renewable Advisory Board

From: Janice McClanaghan,
Energy Office

Date: June 9, 2005

Subject: Update

The following is the June 2005, monthly update for the Renewable Energy Fund:

RES Programs/Supply

Wind

- 1) URI – The students (with the endorsement of the Facilities staff) have submitted a request for a grant to cover the cost of installing anemometers on the WURI radio tower. Students have met with representatives of the performance contractor who are anticipating using the wind data to be collected to evaluate the wind turbine project. A 2006 installation date was discussed during the meeting.
- 2) Portsmouth Abbey Wind –The Abbey wind project was went before the Town of Portsmouth zoning board and was approved on May 26. Vestas is finalizing its price quote to Portsmouth Abbey.
- 3) Raytheon – Boreal and Roger Williams University are proceeding with the installation of the anemometer and the photosimulations.
- 4) Roger Williams University Wind Center – See attached Update.
- 5) Avian Issues – Bat and Wind Energy Collaborative (BWEC) - The mountains of data collected with the benefit of the RI and other state funds' assistance at the Montaineer Wind Energy Center site in West Virginia have finally been analyzed sufficiently to enable Ed Arnett and his team to produce a report on the year's findings. The report can be located on the Bat Conservation International web site: www.batcon.org . On the "What's New" menu, scroll down to the Bats and Wind Energy link. Once there, hit "Research".

BWEC discussed with state funds in March at the AWEA Siting Seminar in Boston, the areas in which the Collaborative feels the need to do further work in 2005, building on what's been learned so far. The attached document outlines the two areas in which BWEC is able to make concrete proposals. Both are extremely important to their efforts to solve the problem of bat impacts, as witnessed in West Virginia and southwestern Pennsylvania. The first area of activity involves examining in more detailed fashion the nature of use of a given prospective wind power site by bats, followed by similar study of use after project construction, as well as studies to assess and quantify impacts on bats at the operating project. The principal objective is to work to develop a tool or tools which will enable the industry to assess risk to bats at potential project sites. For years, similar efforts with respect to avian use and behavior at prospective sites has enabled the industry to avoid sites at which impacts would have been significant.

The second area of activity is the development of means of deterring bats from catastrophic contact with wind turbines. As you can see in the report on the 2004 work, avoidance of

turbine blades was demonstrated by bats. The objective of this work is to attempt to use that ability of bats to help them recognize and respond to the threat of rotating turbine blades. A corollary of this work is an effort to assess whether ultrasonic emissions by turbines is in some way attracting bats into hazardous situations.

The Fund provided a grant of \$5000 in the summer of 2004 for the first phase of the effort. BWEC would be grateful to have a similar grant in 2005. It is a small amount of money that would be greatly leveraged and demonstrates the Fund's commitment to the wind industry and collaborative research efforts to advance the field of knowledge regarding wind turbine siting impacts.

- 6) Berkshire Wind – No update.
- 7) Offshore Wind Collaborative –No update. Greg Watson (MRET) will be presenting at the July 2005 Board meeting.

Hydropower/Ocean Wave

- 8) Energetech Point Judith Ocean Wave Project – Energetech has completed the FERC DoI and received letters of support from RIREF, MRET and CCEF to accompany the document. Tom Denniss and Cynthia Rudge met with project consultants in Massachusetts and Rhode Island this month, and also met with Adler Pollock to discuss the next stage of public official contact and to begin to bring together a group of project supporters. Continued work is being done on the micro-siting and a report was received from URI on their bathymetric investigations. Energetech is within the weather window for installing the Australian project and expect the device to be towed out and installed on its moorings in the next few days.
- 9) Royal Mills Hydro – No Update.
- 10) Rentricity –
 - a) The FERC Assessment Study for Providence Water is well underway with both Kleinschmidt USA (engaged engineer) and Nixon Peabody (engaged law firm) reviewing respective legal and engineering approaches to the exemption. Both reviews at this stage are suggesting that an exemption is probable (70-80%) and the next step will include a presentation to FERC officials which is being scheduled for the week of June 13th or June 20th. Providence Water update calls are scheduled for next week and hope to have PW participate in FERC Meeting. Rentricity is targeting a completed report and presentation to the Renewable Energy Advisory Board for the July Advisory Board Meeting in Providence.
 - b) The mechanical design portion of the Pawtucket project has been delayed by two months due to EarthTech (subcontracted engineer to Pawtucket) delay in providing hydraulic designs to Rentricity. However, work has commenced on the electrical interconnection design and a formal interconnection application and design is underway with Narragansett. An update on that design and the overall project timing will be provided at the July meeting. Attached is the current timeline associated with delivering the final design. The Pawtucket Treatment facility is not scheduled to be online until mid 2006 and the design delay should not adversely impact the installation.
 - c) As a follow-up to the study presented in early February 2005, Rentricity was successful in re-introducing the energy recovery method to the new superintendent of the Woonsocket water department, Carol Lariviere. Rentricity met with Carol and her staff on May 26th and was able to visit a site close to the Treatment Plant. A brief report is being prepared and will be presented to the Renewable Energy Advisory Board in early

July. Attached are the photos from that 7 year old site representing one of the cleanest sites Rentricity has ever surveyed.

- 11) Slater Mill Hydro Project –See Entech Engineering Update.

Voluntary Markets Support – Customer Sited

PV

- 12) Solar on Schools – See Entech Engineering Update.

- 13) Open PV Program – There has been a high level of activity recently with this program. The activity for FY 2005 is \$1,204,180 in committed incentives for 240 kW at 46 sites.

Voluntary Market Support – Green Power

- 14) Renewable Energy Customer Aggregation (RECA) RFP and Proposal to Large Customer Program – See attached Think Energy Update.
- 15) State House Green Power Purchase – Two proposals were received to provide RECs for 5 years to “green” the energy consumption of the State House. The proposals are under final review.
- 16) GreenUp – As of the end of May, 2005, there have been a total of 2419 GreenUp signups, as compared to 1966 at the end of April, 2005.

Outreach and Education

- 17) Smartpower – See attached Update and revised plan for calendar 2005.
- 18) Audubon – Update to be distributed at June 14, 2005 meeting.
- 19) Apeiron – The 3rd Annual Rhode Island Sustainable Living Festival & Renewable Energy Expo was held on Saturday, June 5th from 11 am to 7 pm. See Smartpower Update.
- 20) Green-e Support – CRS has written a memo to the Board explaining how it has fulfilled the requirements for a follow-on grant from the \$25,000 provided last year. CRS would like feedback from the Board.

Administration

- 21) Strategic Plan – Chris Warfel will present a solar program discussion at the June 14, 2005 meeting. Bob Grace will provide an update on the RES negotiated rulemaking, the progress of which directly impacts and informs the Fund’s RES program design. The Outreach Subcommittee will have its next teleconference on June 28. Attendance is strongly urged to move Outreach program planning forward. An agenda and minutes from the last teleconference will be circulated prior to the call.
- 22) CESA – CESA is available to provide consulting support to the Fund and a meeting will be held to determine what support is available that matches the needs of the Fund.

